

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES CON

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES COMMAND 1777 HARDEE AVENUE SW FORT MCPHERSON GA 30330-1062

S: 31 March 2007

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MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, Major Subordinate Commands/Units Reporting Directly to FORSCOM

SUBJECT: Privately-Owned Vehicle/Motorcycle Safety

- 1. As we continue to experience unseasonably cold temperatures and severe winter weather conditions across much of our nation, the spring season and warmer temperatures are welcome changes that are right around the corner. But, just as the harsh conditions of winter pose significant challenges and risk to personnel and equipment, the transition to the spring and summer months presents hazards and risks that must be managed as well. Accidental drowning and heat injuries are significant risks in the coming months, but the hazards associated with privately-owned vehicles (POV), and particularly operation of motorcycles, pose the greatest threat to Forces Command (FORSCOM) Soldiers in the continental United States.
- 2. Although FORSCOM achieved a reduction in the number of personnel killed in POV accidents in Fiscal Year (FY) 06 (63 in FY06 versus 76 in FY05), the number of motorcycle related fatalities continued to rise for the fourth consecutive year. Motorcycle accidents accounted for 28, or 44 percent, of the 63 POV related fatalities across FORSCOM in FY06. Further analysis revealed that 21 of the 28 fatalities occurred between April and September, with the greatest number of losses occurring in the month of April alone.
- 3. We do not want to repeat this experience in FY07. To that end, we will ensure that our motorcycle training is in place and being conducted, and that motorcycle mentorship programs receive our full endorsement and support. Furthermore, every leader in FORSCOM will identify and conduct face-to-face counseling with motorcycle riders under their immediate supervision, NLT 31 March 2007. As a minimum, counseling will include the following:
- a. Review of operator experience, operator's license (with motorcycle endorsement), Motorcycle Safety Foundation Card, vehicle registration.
- b. Discussion/review of motorcycle safety, hazards, and controls (e.g., requirements for personal protective equipment, on and off duty; effects of speed, alcohol and fatigue, equipment maintenance and condition, etc.).

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4. Now is the time to identify and take action to manage these risks. Engage your local Safety and Provost Marshal Offices for suggestions and assistance. Team work, leader engagement, and individual adherence to standards will support the prevention of losses from POV accidents in FY07.

5. For additional information, please contact Ms. Cathy Pierce, FORSCOM Safety Director, 404-464-5596, cathy.pierce@forscom.army.mil.

CHARLES C. CAMPBELL

General, USA Commanding